



### Flag Flying Dates

**1st March:** St. David's Day

**10th March:** Commonwealth Day & Duke of Edinburgh's Birthday

**17th March:** St Patrick's Day

# HALAM NEWS

## March 2025

*If you would like to contribute to a future edition of Halam News please send your article (as you would like it to be printed) using the details below by the 25th of the month for inclusion the following month. All content is included at the discretion of the Editor.*



### Bin Collection Dates

Green (Mon): 10th, 24th

Brown (Fri): 14th, 28th

Silver (Mon): 3rd, 17th, 31st

Teal (Tue): 18th



## Parish Pump



### Halam WI

We are looking forward to welcoming all of our members to our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 4th March at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. We aim to get official business completed swiftly to allow time for a Beetle Drive game enjoyed with wine and nibbles - we will also be sharing the new 2025/6 programme of speakers at this meeting - as always, new members are very welcome! If you would like to find out more about Halam WI, follow us on social media (@HalamWI) or drop us a line at [halamvillagewi@gmail.com](mailto:halamvillagewi@gmail.com).

### Flood Management Update: January 2025 Meeting Summary

A previously postponed meeting from November 2024 was held at the end of January between the Halam Flood Action Group (FLAG) committee and the Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) Flood Officer. During the meeting, the Natural Flood Management (NFM) model was presented, highlighting key areas where measures could be implemented to slow water flow into Halam. Discussions with landowners have already begun to explore potential locations for mitigation efforts.

The initial NFM feasibility study is expected to be completed by March/April 2025. Once there is greater clarity on costs and design, a follow-up meeting will be scheduled with the Flood Officer to discuss the next steps. The scale of NFM interventions will be influenced by an economic appraisal, which considers the number of properties affected by flooding. Increased investment is more likely if a greater number of properties are impacted. Therefore, it is crucial that any instances of flooding in the village are reported to NCC or through Halam FLAG. All reports will be handled confidentially and will only be used to shape future mitigation plans—insurance companies will not be notified.

FLAG was also informed that flood warden training will commence once 50 volunteers have been recruited across the region.

Additionally, the NCC Flood Officer intends to engage directly with Severn Trent Water following concerns raised by FLAG regarding plans to divert additional water into local watercourses from the pumping station. NCC will also follow up with the Internal Drainage Board (IDB) regarding recent survey work conducted in the area. Further updates will be shared as more information becomes available.

### Music at Halam Court

Music at Halam Court (Back Lane) re-commences in April, with a concert each in April, May, June and July (x2), spanning a wide variety of styles and interests. Members of the Halam community are especially welcome to any or all of these. Entry is free and so are the refreshments!

Briefly for now, the dates are usually Sundays, always at 3 p.m:

**13 April:** Organ recital by David Butterworth

**Saturday 24 May:** The Bramley House Trio

**15 June:** Song recital by William Burn with Peter Shepherd (piano)

**6 July:** The Jayne Walker Trio

**20 July:** Piano recital on the Steinway concert grand by Jill Crossland



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## Join Us for the Annual Parish Meeting – Have Your Say!

We want to hear from you! The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will be held on Thursday, 3rd April, on a separate date from the usual Parish Council meeting to encourage more parishioner engagement. This is your opportunity to shape the future of our village. The Parish Council has Community Infrastructure Levy (C.I.L.) funds that must be spent on community projects by the end of the year. We want your input on how this money should be used to benefit Halam.

In addition, there will be an update from the Chair on the work that has been undertaken by the council over the past year. We have also invited our local police beat officer to attend and hope they can make the meeting and provide updates and answer any questions.

We'll also be providing tea, coffee, and biscuits—so come along, have a chat, and get involved - we look forward to seeing you there!

## Farnsfield Walk For Parkinsons

A “Farnsfield Walk For Parkinsons” event is being held this year on Saturday 26th April. The walk will take place over an 8.3 mile route commencing at The Plough, Farnsfield at 10.30am. Families and dogs on leads are welcome to join in.

The walk will break at Norwood Park Golf Club at approximately 12.00 to 12.30pm where a light BBQ meal will be provided. Additional refreshment stops will be held at The Waggon in Halam and at The Old Reindeer in Edingley. The return to The Plough will go along the Southwell Road to arrive at approximately 3.30pm.



A registration fee of £17 is required to participate in the walk which will provide a donation direct to Parkinsons UK and cover cost of the food at Norwood Park Golf Club. Registration for the walk can be made on the “Eventbrite.co.uk” website on the “Farnsfield Walk For Parkinson’s” page. A cap of 200 walkers has been set with places on the walk available on a first come first serve basis. This is necessary to ensure the maximum enjoyment and the safety of walkers is maintained on the day.

If you are unable to attend the walk but would still like to support this great cause we would be delighted if you could sponsor the walk by way of a donation through the “JustGiving” website page or to the one of the organisers in person. Last years event was a great success which raised £4,700 bringing the total raised in excess of £15,000 over the past 4 walks.

**More information or queries can be raised through John Butler on 07870 948297 or Bruce McDowall on 07759 137634.**



## Halam School News



During Mental Health Week (WB 3rd February) we worked in House Groups to find out more and to make a rosette with a green themed ribbon attached. The theme this year was, ‘Know Yourself, Grow Yourself’.

On 10th February, year 5 children visited the Edingley Lodge Care home. The children shared their favourite books with the residents and read extracts to them. This was a highly enjoyable afternoon for all involved. Film Night, arranged by our PTFA, took place on 12th February. We watched Hotel Transylvania III and enjoyed drinks and popcorn snacks.

All of Halam children completed a questionnaire which we received from the Sherwood Observatory. We recorded what school is like now and wrote what school and life might be like in the future. We drew lots of pictures showing some amazing inventions that might happen. All of our entries will be entered into a time capsule and opened in the year 2086. We wonder who will be around to see them!

By Mia, Amelia and Holly.



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# St Michael the Archangel



As we reach the spring equinox many of us come out of hibernation and start looking around to see what we can do! There is always something that you can join in with at St. Michael's whether it is actively taking part in services, for example doing a reading, or more behind the scenes, cleaning or arranging flowers, all contact details are below for more information. If any of the children who read and sang so beautifully at Christmas would like to read or sing during the informal services, again please use the contact details below.

**March services everyone is welcome.**

**2nd March - Sunday before Lent:** 11.00a.m. Morning Prayer

**9th March - First Sunday of Lent:** 11.00a.m. Holy Communion

**16th March - Second Sunday of Lent:** 11.00a.m. Informal Service 'Pet Service' followed by refreshments

**23rd March - Third Sunday of Lent:** 11.00a.m. Sung Eucharist

**30th March - Mothering Sunday:** 9.30a.m. at St. Giles Edingley

**Contacts:** Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838, Wardens - Glenys Herbert 01636 812335 – Penni Wells 01636 813491

**Food Bank:** There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

## Message from Rev. Mary

As I write, there is a keen frost but nature is telling us that Spring is around the corner. Crocus, daffodils and green shoots herald the coming event. March 5th is Ash Wednesday and there is a service in St. Giles, Edingley at 10.00a.m. to start the beginning of Lent. A Lenten collect reads 'Holy God, our lives are laid open before you.....bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord.' Lent is a time when we can do some 'spiritual' spring-cleaning as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter, Resurrection Day.

On 19th March the church calendar remembers Joseph the carpenter and husband of Mary. Jesus most likely helped him in his carpenter's workshop. That morning our team will be taking assembly at our wonderful church school in Halam. Sunday 30th March is Mothering Sunday when we thank God for Mother Church and all who 'mother' us. It is also known as 'Refreshment Sunday' because the fasting rules for Lent were relaxed on that day – so you can eat your chocolate biscuits!

Thank you for all you do ministering to one another and by supporting our food bank. Every blessing, Rev. Mary

**Exploring Faith:** A course for enquirers with Bishop Paul and Sarah Williams at Bishops Manor 12th March – 9th April at 6.30p.m. For more details contact: Rev. Mary 01623 479838 or 01636 817990





# Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm on Thursday 13th February 2025 held at Halam Village Hall



*Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting. Scan the QR code to link to the website.*

## **Present**

Catherine Blackburn (Chair), Chris Denyer (Vice-Chair), Chris Bevans, Andrew Paris and Charlie Wright

## **Apologies**

Simon Bust and Ganesh Subramanian

## **Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

- a. .gov.uk emails for the parish council and councillors – now set up. Andrew Paris needs log in details. Agree communication will continue on both personal and gov emails until there is confirmation that all gov emails are working for all councillors.
- b. Damaged fingerpost at crossroads – Notts County Council have advised that they will replace the existing sign boards and retain the current concrete post.
- c. Banking – last details of mandates etc. being sorted.
- d. Building work in the copse on School Lane – Simon Bust to make further enquiries.
- e. Footbridge linking the fields from the pub through to St Helen's Lane – County Council will now be repair this in the new financial year, however exact date is yet to be confirmed and the commencement of the works will require permission from the landowner for access.

## **Village Hall**

1. Outside painting of the doors - will be completed once the weather has improved.
  2. Outside wall – waiting for further quotes from builders.
  3. Gate at side of hall – wooden gate has been ordered and will need paying for on installation.
  4. Over-head heater – agreed to repair.
  5. W.I. cupboard – agreed that the W.I. can use the lockable cupboard.
- Agreed to look into removing the hallway curtains and tidy paintwork and cover exposed pipes.

## **Allotments**

A group of allotment holders were present at the meeting; they were informed that a grant application to Severn Trent Water has been unsuccessful. The aim of the grant money was to be used to create parking inside the allotment boundary. However, the application was rejected as a result of the money benefiting minimal people in the village. Agreed that the County Council will be contacted to understand whether some lane verges can be cut back to create parking along Gray Lane. Hedge cutting on the allotment side will also take place following bird nesting season. Further clearing of the allotments will be looked at, and the availability of plots can be publicised once cleared to try and encourage more allotment tenants.

Title – the documents are with the specialist solicitor to apply for Absolute Title. The solicitor now requires some further details from the parish council Chair and Clerk. Mr Croston will send the Clerk a list of the information needed.

## **Roads & Hedges**

A complaint has been received about some of the hedges in the village overhanging the pavement. The Clerk will speak to the householders. Andrew Paris reported that some of the kerb gulleys on Radley Road are clogged with mud. To be raised with County Cllr Bruce Laughton for action.

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

How to have more parishioner engagement at the Annual Parish Meeting was discussed. It was agreed to hold the APM on a different date to the usual April parish council meeting – The APM will be held on Thursday 3rd April, an advert will be published in Halam Village News and letter box drop to take place. The parish council has an amount of Community Infrastructure Levy (C.I.L.) money which needs to be spent on community projects by the end of the year. It was agreed that this would be discussed and input taken from the village to decide how this money should be spent. The local police beat officer will be invited to speak at the meeting. It was also agreed that tea, coffee and biscuits would be provided for the meeting.



### **C.I.L. money**

A proposal to spend the C.I.L. money on planters and furniture in the village was put on hold until further discussions at the APM (see above).

### **Flood Local Action Group (FLAG)**

The group requested that the parish council support their application to receive grant money for flood response equipment, and permission to store at the village hall. As this will be entirely funded by Notts County Council, the request was supported unanimously.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

It was unclear as to how much support this now receives from the police. Clarification will be sought from the district councillor Penny Rainbow.

### **HR committee report from 15th January**

This had been previously circulated and was accepted. One point raised: the employee Sexual Harassment Policy may need to be separate from the overall policy.

### **Handover of website and hall bookings from Chris Bevans**

Village website – has been taken on by Catherine Blackburn

Hall bookings – has been taken over by Charlie Wright

### **Correspondence**

1. Information about the 80th anniversary of VE Day has been received. An event similar to that for the D Day commemoration was proposed for Thursday 8th May. A VE Day anniversary flag has been bought.

Agreed to move the parish council to Wednesday 7th May

2. Armed Forces Week – 22nd-28th June – it was suggested that a celebratory flag should be purchased.

3. NALC training: Employment Essentials – Charlie Wright to attend

### **Lengthsman Scheme**

Resolved to apply for funding for a lengthsman scheme for next financial year.

### **Biodiversity Policy**

Nothing further to report this month.

### **Planning**

None this month

### **Planning Decision**

None this month

### **Finance**

Agreed to pay for:

1. NALC annual subs
2. NALC training event
3. NALC 2x meetings (RFO)
4. Pack of printer paper
5. Overhead heater repair

Re-issue of cheque to VIA for road salt (lost cheque)

Send deposit to new bank (Unity) to open new pc account

### **Objectives for financial year 2025-2026**

Proposed that it would be good for the council to have a clear goals and objectives in place for the next financial year to enable the meetings to be focused and concise. Newark and Sherwood's objectives to be circulated to all councillors as an example. Councillors asked to present their ideas for objectives in March's meeting and agree.

### **Date of next meeting**

**Thursday 13th March 2025 in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.**

*Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.*





# **DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT FEBRUARY 2025**

## **CLLR PENNY RAINBOW**

### **(Ward member for Southwell)**



#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**

The Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution has written/mailed NSDC asking for comment on 'our' vision for the proposed reorganisation of local government. The same has also been sent to Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield, Rushcliffe as well as Nottingham City Council and Nottingham County Council.

While the expectation is for local authorities to work together and arrive at a consensus, individual Councils can submit their own proposal jointly with any of the Councils invited to respond. All proposals that are submitted must have regard to the laid out criteria and the timeline for this process. The criteria includes 'sensible' geographical and economic areas, they must be the right size in order to achieve; efficiencies (a minimum 5000,000 population); secure 'crucial' services such as social care, Children's services and homelessness; and demonstrate plans to make sure that communities are engaged.

Interim plans are to be submitted on or before 21st March 2025.

The full and final proposal is to be submitted on or before 28th November 2025.

Once a unitary proposal has been agreed, the Government will progress elections to new 'shadow' unitary councils as soon as possible.

NSDC councillors and Town clerks are due to attend a further briefing on Wednesday of this week.

#### **POLICY & PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

The PPI Committee is due to hear a review of the Bassetlaw and Newark Community Safety Partnership at its meeting this week. The existence of a Community Safety Partnership is a statutory requirement, a number of authorities make up the partnership; The District Council, The County Council, The Chief Officer of Police, The Fire and Rescue Authority, The Integrated Care Boards.

The above authorities meet on a quarterly basis. Performance reports are produced each month on all crime and antisocial behaviour. The performance for crime for 24/25 when compared to the previous year shows that Newark and Sherwood experienced a 1.6% increase in all crime compared to a 4.5% reduction in the county. However, Newark and Sherwood experienced an 14.5% reduction in anti-social behaviour compared to an 8.3% reduction in the county.

The safety partnership are looking at five key themes for the coming year;

- Serious violence, violence against women and girls, and domestic abuse
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Vulnerability and Contextual Safeguarding
- Community Cohesion
- Neighbourhood Crime

The CCTV control room currently based at Police headquarters in Sherwood is due to move to an NSDC location within the Beacon building on Beacon Hill, Newark. This was a cabinet decision and a two year notice period was triggered last year.

A camera replacement programme has been agreed and to date 14 cameras have been installed, 13 cameras in Newark and 1 at Southwell Leisure Centre.

#### **NEWARK CASTLE - GATEHOUSE PROJECT**

In March 2017 NSDC was successfully awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund to carry out a feasibility study to enhance the Castle Gatehouse project. The Gatehouse is, in the opinion of Historic England, 'the most complete example of a Romanesque gatehouse in England'.





A master plan has now been developed;  
Work is due to start late March early April for a 12 month project.  
A roof will be put on the gatehouse.  
The gardens will remain open, albeit limited, to the public during works.  
A lift will be incorporated to the first floor for greater accessibility.  
A welcome area and larger room will be available for functions.  
An extensive education programme will be on offer for school groups.  
16 trees have been felled, 2 were grade A.  
Replanting scheme included in plans.  
Entry price for NSDC residents will be at half the price that tourists will be expected to pay.

**Cllr Penny Rainbow**  
Southwell ward member NSDC

## Dingbats

Last month's answers:  
"Little by little" / "London Underground"

# PROMISE

# ICE<sup>3</sup>

## Zumba at Halam Village Hall

Zumba with Karen

Tuesdays: 6:00pm - 6:45pm  
Thursdays: 6:00pm - 6:45pm

£6 per session

Book on 07790589966 or  
[www.bookwhen.com/karenhut](http://www.bookwhen.com/karenhut)



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\*\*Discounted tickets are available until midnight 2 May 2025, thereafter gate prices will apply.